



AMERICAN FORAGE AND GRASSLAND COUNCIL AFFILIATE MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW

The American Forage and Grassland Council (AFGC) started in 1944 as the Joint Committee on Grassland Farming and was renamed in 1968 to better reflect the organizations mission. Over the past 75 years, many changes have taken place in AFGC but the one steady is the strong grassroots base that AFGC has had with state affiliate councils.

AFGC is a member driven non-profit organization with a core purpose to advance forage agriculture and grassland stewardship. AFGC accomplishes this goal primarily through the sharing of information, research initiatives, connecting industry colleagues, and youth engagement strategies.

Funding of AFGC comes from membership dues, the annual conference, and occasional grant support. Membership is \$12.50 for each affiliate member; \$50 for individual members; and \$5 for student members.

What do I get as an Affiliate Member?

Member Perspective

- *4 Quarterly Newsletters
- *Monthly E-News
- *Online Membership Directory
- *Progressive Forage Grower
- *Reduced conference fees
- *Member of collective voice
- *Certified Forage & Grassland Professional participation
- *Ability to post council events

Affiliate Council Perspective

- *Webpage Space
- *Monthly webpage updates
- *Membership Processing
- *General Liability Coverage
- *Non-Profit Status
- *Event Credit Card Processing
- *Ability to post council events
- *Leader Network
- *Annual tax filing

The above is a highlight of benefits received for an investment of \$12.50 per affiliate member. This does not include the many resources made available by AFGC to the public in an effort to educate on the importance of forages. The resources your membership supports include:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| *Online proceedings database | * Competitions |
| *YouTube Channel | * Industry Awards |
| *Website | * Youth Engagement Activities |
| *Social Media | * National Forage Week |
| *Forage Industry resources | *Administrative Services |

The annual requirements for a state affiliate council to stay in good standing with AFGC include the following:

- Submit a board roster (due upon board election)
- Submit a financial standing form (due by January 15th)
- Submit a list of events each calendar year (due when events are scheduled)
- Submit a copy of affiliate council by-laws (if changed)
- Submit an annual report outlining affiliate activities over the year (due December 15th)
- Submit membership dues structure (if membership rates/fees are changed AFGC must be notified so online join/renew system can be updated)
- Respond to member renewal notice with current roster of members (if you process your affiliate membership a member roster must be submitted after your renewal process)
- Payment of \$12.50 per member
- Send new member information to AFGC upon receipt outside of annual renewal process

Affiliate Services Available from AFGC to state councils:

- Webpage on AFGC site with monthly updates
- Online Membership processing (AFGC covers the credit card fee for memberships if processed on the AFGC website)
- Posting of events in web calendar, Forage Leader, monthly E-news and through social media
- Online event registration with a 3% processing fee for credit card registrations